

Regular Meeting
Recreation Commission
Borough of Rumson

June 19, 2019

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:01PM.

Present: Commissioners; Mike Cecil; Kerry Chandler; Dorothy Whitehouse; Adam Cavise; Jon Levine; Michael Ingrassia; and Irene Hall.

Kevin Delia, Recreation Director; Laura Atwell, Borough Council President

Not Present; Rob Swikart, Borough Council Member.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- The minutes from the May 15th Recreation Commission meeting were presented. Motion to accept the minutes as written were approved by Adam Cavise and seconded by Jon Levine. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Nick and Melina Sophinos were present to ask the Rumson Recreation Commissioners to consider allowing for travel softball teams to exist in Rumson for the ages of 10u and 12u. Nick and Melina gave their background of coaching and experience in the Rumson Rec Softball program. They explained that they have enough interest from their current players to have a team for the fall and spring seasons to compete in the USABL Softball League. Melina and Nick provided details on how they would accommodate the rec level players but at the same time keep Rumson girls on a Rumson sponsored travel softball team.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR

- The treasures report for April was provided by Helen Graves, Borough of Rumson CFO to the Recreation Commission.
- Kevin Delia updated the Recreation Commissioners on the new position within the Borough of Rumson, Communications and Recreation Coordinator. He said the interview process was underway and was hoping to hold the second round of interviews next week. Kevin said the second interview would involve a recreation commissioner and a town council member.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Kevin Delia explained the spring sports programs are moving on as scheduled but many events have been rescheduled due to rain outs.
- Kevin Delia gave some more insight on the TRLL Softball coordination and how a new group of coaches have decided to step up and create its own board away from the baseball board. Irene Hall added some details on how girls don't continue playing softball due to a similar set up with 1st grade softball and T-Ball. A conversation continued around the benefit of an improved rec softball program and how it could translate into a travel softball program.
- Members of the Recreation Commission discussed the possibility of allowing a travel softball program to exist in Rumson. Kevin said he will have issues managing field allocations to allow for a travel softball team to exist in Rumson. The consensus was for Kevin Delia to get some more details on how it works in the surrounding towns first prior to approval.
- Kevin Delia provided the Recreation Commissioners with an update on the registration numbers for the Summer Hoops program. He said that all divisions have enough players to have 4 teams in each. Kevin said the coaches meeting was rescheduled for June 26th. It was originally scheduled for June 20th but there were not enough coaches to cover all the teams so it was postponed to allow for time to recruit more coaches.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commissioners that the coaches meeting for flag football will be August 1st and the coaches meeting for rec soccer will be August 8th. He said that he wanted to hold the meetings a week earlier to allow for more time to prepare rosters and equipment.
- Kevin provided all the Recreation Commissioners with an email from Russell Montalbano regarding the Rumson Rec Soccer Referee coordination. Russ handled this role in the past for the Rumson Rec Department and had some suggestions on how it should be handled going forward. Kevin asked if we should follow his plan for the soccer season and all agreed it was fine as it is currently being handled with the outside assignor, Neil Warar. It was asked that Kevin reach out to Russ to thank him for his time in the past and his suggestions but we will continue with the current structure.
- Kevin Delia gave the Recreation Commissioners some details on the fall field assignments for the rec programs and the RFH AYF program. He said that Fair Haven will share some of the load with the tackle football organization by taking the first half of the season and then moving to Rumson for the second half of the season. He said they will use Meadow Ridge West again for the remainder of the fall. He said that Piping Rock will be used for regulation soccer for the fall season and flag football will be at Meadow Ridge West on days they are not on the RFH Turf. Kevin went to say he working out the arrangements for the smaller sided soccer fields.
- Adam Cavise asked that the Recreation Commissioners consider adjusting the travel sports policy regarding the amount of evaluators required for each tryout. The policy currently says one or more independent evaluators are to be used for each tryout. Adam asked that it be changed to have it mandatory to have at least two independent evaluators at each travel sports tryout. A discussion took place on the efficacy of mandating two as opposed to the

current policy of one or more. Adam made a motion to modify the policy to having at least two independent evaluators at each travel sports tryout. There was no second, therefore the policy will remain unchanged. The Recreation Commissioners decided it would be best to discuss this issue at a later meeting to allow for the Rumson Recreation Commissioners time to digest the information.

- Kevin Delia provided the Recreation Commissioners a rough draft of a communications strategy to help with transparency for travel sports. This document is intended to be used by coaches prior to their respective seasons to give parents of players an idea of what they can expect in terms of financial and time commitments as well as playing time. Kevin asked the Recreation Commissioners take a look at what he provided and come back next month with some suggestions on how to improve the document. Dorothy Whitehouse suggested there be some more specific language about playing time with this document. A conversation continued on the benefit of equal playing time or earned playing time for all travel sports. It was suggested to get this done prior to the fall travel sports coaches meetings.
- Kevin Delia said the travel baseball tryouts will be scheduled soon but the TRLL All Stars are causing conflicts for many of those boys.
- Mike Cecil provided an update on Mid-Monmouth Basketball details for the upcoming season. He said the tryouts for the older teams went well and should be wrapped up by the end of this week.
- Kevin Delia provided the Recreation Commissioners with a list of the suggested travel soccer coaches for the fall 2019/spring 2020 season. He explained the reason for a few openings. Dorothy Whitehouse made a motion to approve the list of coaches as provided by Kevin. Michael Ingrassia seconded the motion. All in favor.
- Dorothy Whitehouse nominated Adam Cavise and Michael Ingrassia as flag football coordinators for the fall 2019 season. Mike Cecil seconded the motion. All in favor.
- Laura Atwell thanked all the Recreation Commissioners for their commitment to their community and their hard work recently and also said that council man Rob Swikart expressed the same to Laura.

PERSONNEL ISSUES (closed session)

EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed session) 9:12pm-9:31pm

- The Recreation Commission went into closed session to discuss the travel sports coaching approval process.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:02pm

Kerry Chandler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mike Cecil. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Kevin Delia